

REMARKS

This paper responds to the Decision on Appeal mailed September 9, 2009.

Claims 23, 27, 29, 30, 32, and 36-38 are amended. Claims 16-21 are canceled. Thus, claims 23-27 and 29-38 are now pending in this application.

Decision on Appeal

The rejection of claims 29-31 under 35 USC §102 (a & b) as being anticipated by Koizumi (Toshiba Corp JP 411284278A) or Manor (U.S. 6,420,245) or Peng et al. (U.S. 6,737,606) was affirmed.

The rejection of claims 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Koizumi, or Manor, or Peng et al. was affirmed.

The rejection of claims 16-21 and 32-38 under 35 USC §102 (a & b) as being anticipated by Katagiri (Toshiba Corp, JP 355046579A) or Muraki (NEC, JP353002074A) or Boyle et al. (U.S. 6,586,707) was affirmed.

The rejection of claims 16-21 and 32-38 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Katagiri in view of Muraki and in view of Boyle et al. was affirmed.

The rejection of claims 23-27 under 35 USC §102 (a & b) as being anticipated by Katagiri (Toshiba Corp, JP 355046579A) or Muraki (NEC, JP353002074A) or Boyle et al. (U.S. 6,586,707) was reversed.

The rejection of claims 23-27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Katagiri in view of Muraki and in view of Boyle et al. was reversed.

Claims 16-21

Applicant cancels claims 16-21 without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, the pending rejection of claims 16-21 is moot.

Claims 23-27

Applicant notes that the Board reversed the pending rejection of claims 23-27. Applicant amends independent claim 23 only for clarity to replace “continues” with “continuous”. The

amendment does not alter the scope of claim 23. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of claim 23 and its dependent claims 24-27.

Claims 29-31

Applicant amends independent claim 29 to include similar elements recited in claim 23, especially “passing the saw through the area of the first continuous line, the second continuous line and the third continuous line to cut the wafer”. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of claim 29 and its dependent claims 30 and 31.

Claims 32-38

Applicant amends independent claim 32 to include similar elements recited in claim 23, especially “passing a saw through the first area, the second area, and the third continuous line to cut the wafer”. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of claim 32 and its dependent claims 33-38.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (612) 373-6969 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or deficiencies, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date November 2, 2009

By 

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 2nd day of November, 2009.

Name

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Signature

